

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-6. (Cancelled)

7. **(Previously Presented)** A method for producing a rubber-like elastic article, comprising the step of subjecting a rubber composition comprising a hydrogenated natural polyisoprenoid having a degree of hydrogenation of 95% or more or a modified product thereof to molding/forming accompanied by vulcanization,

wherein said hydrogenated natural polyisoprenoid is a polymer which is the reaction product of a natural polyisoprenoid with hydrogen in the presence of a rhodium complex hydrogenation catalyst in water,

wherein said hydrogenated natural polyisoprenoid has a weight-average molecular weight of 83×10^4 or more and a molecular-weight distribution of 2.0 or more, and

wherein said hydrogenated natural polyisoprenoid is an ingredient in modified latices obtained by hydrogenating natural polyisoprenoid latices in the state of latex.

8-25. (Cancelled)